

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5193

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YU, FR, CSCE, MMOL

SUBJECT: MORE ON VISIT GISCARD DID NOT MAKE TO
YUGOSLAVIA

REF: PARIS 26596 (NOTAL), PARIS 26646 (NOTAL)

1. NOW THAT DUST HAS SETTLED QUAI HAS OFFERED FEW
FURTHER INSIGHTS INTO GISCARD'S SCRUBBED VISIT TO
YUGOSLAVIA.

2. TITO'S HEALTH: QUAI REMAINS CONVINCED THAT ABRUPT
CANCELLATION WAS IN NO WAY DIPLOMATIC AND THAT TITO IS
ILL. QUAI WAS SURPRISED THAT FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAS NOT
EVEN BEEN PERMITTED MAKE BRIEFEST VISIT TO DELIVER
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GISCARD'S PERSONAL GET-WELL MESSAGE TO TITO. AS TO

NATURE OF ILLNESS, QUAI REITERATES THAT MINIC LEFT IMPRESSION PROBLEM WAS CARDIO-VASCULAR BUT THAT IT IS INCREASINGLY PREPARED ACCEPT THESIS OF A LIVER AILMENT, PERHAPS HEPATITIS, WHICH AT TITO'S AGE CAN BE A SERIOUS MATTER.

3. THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH NEVER APPEARED: ASKED WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED HAD GISCARD GONE, QUAI SAYS NO MAJOR RESULTS OTHER THAN ATMOSPHERICS WERE ANTICIPATED. CONTRARY TO PUBLIC IMPRESSION, NEGOTIATION OF WOULD-BE COMMUNIQUE POSED NO MAJOR PROBLEM, INCLUDING UNACCEPTABLE ASPECTS OF NON-ALIGNMENT LANGUAGE WHICH YUGOSLAVS DROPPED WITHOUT EXCESSIVE DIFFICULTY.

4. MEDITERRANEAN ISSUE: CURIOUSLY, WE ARE TOLD THAT A MORE DIFFICULT EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE OVER YUGOSLAV INSISTENCE ON LANGUAGE ELABORATING REFERENCE TO "MEDITERRANEAN" AS A LAKE OF PEACE." FRENCH GOT IMPRESSION YUGOSLAVS WERE PREPARING GROUND FOR NEW EFFORT AT BELGRADE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE TO REOPEN DISCUSSION ON MEDITERRANEAN DISARMAMENT, WHICH FRENCH DID NOT WANT TO ENCOURAGE.

5. ARMS SALES: YUGOSLAVS ALSO WANTED A FEW WORDS RECOGNIZING PRINCIPLE OF ARMS PURCHASES FROM FRANCE. FRENCH REFUSED, PARTLY BECAUSE INTERNAL FRENCH DISCUSSION AS TO TYPES OF ARMS TO SELL TO GOY IS APPARENTLY STILL AT DEAD CENTER IN PARIS (PARIS 02295 NOTAL).

6. WHEN GISCARD'S VISIT MIGHT TAKE PLACE: TITO'S HEALTH PERMITTING, GISCARD VISIT MIGHT STILL TAKE PLACE IN FIRST TWO OR THREE MONTHS OF NEXT YEAR. IN MEANTIME, QUAI NOT PLANNING SUBSTITUTE VISITS ON INVITATIONS AT OTHER LEVELS, AT LEAST FOR PRESENT.

7. IN GENERAL QUAI LEFT US WITH IMPRESSION THAT FRENCH WANT TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH GOY AT PRESENT "GOOD" LEVEL, PARTICULARLY SINCE YUGOSLAVIA FACING POTENTIALLY UNCERTAIN PERIOD. QUAI'S COMMENT ON CARLOS ISSUE WERE REPORTED SEPTEL.RUSH

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